

Specification - Applicant substitutes a new paragraph within the specification, replacing lines 12 through 17 on Page 1 with the following:

“Currently available compositions and methods suffer from a limited range of applicability and effectiveness, in that they remove only certain types of adherent deposits from particular surfaces and substrates.”

Response to Arguments - Applicant is providing with this amendment a supplemental declaration under 37 CFR 1.132 concerning the development of the present invention and its innovative features, not expressly stated in the specification. This declaration in combination with the amended claims and the declaration under 37 CFR 1.132 submitted with applicant’s response submitted January 15, 2004, will show that the present application’s claims are not anticipated by the prior art. The supplemental declaration is included by reference.

Claim Rejection - 35 USC §112

Applicant’s amended claims address this rejection.

Claim Rejection - 35 USC §102 and §103

The cancellation of the previously submitted claims obviates the examiner’s previous objections.

The claimed combinations of ingredients in the amended claims are specific and produce a combination of desirable features for this cleaner invention. Primarily, the goal of zero volatile organic compounds (VOC) is achieved. A secondary feature that was unanticipated during the search for a zero-VOC formulation also appeared with the claimed specific amounts of ingredients. That feature was the desirable ability to leave no residue behind on the surface or substrate after the application of the cleaner invention. In the inventor’s knowledge (see accompanying declaration), no other cleaner possesses this capability, and also no other cleaner is 100% VOC compliant. No previously available cleaner possesses the stated combinations of ingredients and the accompanying properties.

Examiner's objections included an observation that the chemical formulation of kerosene included the same light hydrotreated petroleum distillate (LHPD) used as a carrier solvent in this invention, hence any cleaner that used kerosene and the same other ingredients as the present invention anticipated this invention. As argued by the inventor in his declaration and supplemental declaration under 37 CFR 1.132, the other unneeded components of kerosene, other than the LHPD component, that are brought along when kerosene is used in a cleaner produce the undesirable residue that is not seen with the use of the present invention. The present invention eliminates the undesirable features of kerosene to achieve a different and distinct end.

Kerosene contains LHPD and some of the other ingredients of this formulation, but you cannot make a cleaner that does not leave behind a kerosene residue if you use kerosene as a solvent.

Applicant believes that all claims now on file in this application are in condition for immediate allowance and such action is respectfully requested.